

THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Monday, May 1, 1916.

Rock Island—From River to River.

Roosevelt threw his family into the trenches again Saturday. He doesn't seem to care (on paper) what happens to those near and dear to him.

You'll have to give it to Ambassador von Bernstorff as a fellow who could do things up satisfactory to about everybody if he were left alone to do it.

Chicago has a new chief of detectives. He has been a member of the department 27 years. He ought to know enough not to make himself too useful—to the people.

The most cheering information to Americans that has come out of Europe in two years is contained in a hint from Berlin that in a short time President Wilson will be invited to act as mediator in settling the great conflict. Uncle Sam is the friend of all the nations at war, despite that he has been near the breaking point at times with one or more of them since the beginning of the trouble, and will give substantial proof of that unbiased friendship when the big opportunity comes.

WILSON'S STRENGTH.

Democrats have felt much gratified at the evidence furnished by recent polls at the strength which President Wilson has shown. At the recent Chicago primary election, for instance, as The Argus has before stated, President Wilson received 73,398 votes while the combined votes for Sherman, Roosevelt, Hughes, Root and Thompson was 76,592, about 3,000 more votes for Wilson, democrat, than for the republicans named, combined.

Similar popularity of President Wilson is shown elsewhere. In one of the Minnesota districts at the recent primary election 5,231 votes were cast for Wilson, whereas the republican vote was, Cummins, 2,943; Estabrook, 1,210; Webster 400—total 4,553, leaving the president a majority of 678.

In Wisconsin at the recent primary in the city of Milwaukee, the president received 22,000 votes and about 25,000 votes in Milwaukee county. The total vote polled for the president was nearly as large as the combined votes cast for LaFollette and Phillips, candidates for delegates at large to the republican national convention. Henry C. Campbell, editor of the Milwaukee Journal, in writing to Secretary Tumulty, characterizes the showing as remarkably good.

Republicans who are comforting themselves with the forced belief that President Wilson is losing his popularity with the American voters and that the r. o. p. is going to win at the November elections are riding to a fall. The primary elections in every section of the country, notwithstanding there is no democrat against Mr. Wilson for president, are furnishing evidence that the voters go to the polls to vote a preference for Wilson and that the popularity of the president is increasing rather than diminishing, and indicate that no candidate the republicans can pick out, not even Roosevelt or Hughes, will be able to defeat him.

WATCHING THE WATER.

The state board of health announces its intention of investigating and examining vended waters with a view of safeguarding the public against the dangers which may lurk in some bottled waters now being supplied to the citizens of Illinois.

The recent epidemic of typhoid fever in Moline calls for attention to the danger lurking in the use of bottled waters not subjected to inspection. The general public is in the habit of placing blind faith in the sanitary quality of waters sold in bottles. A little thought, however, will reveal that the operation of bottling, even supposing the source to be pure, subjects the water to most of the dangers inherent in the preparation and sale of milk. At the present day there is hardly a man, woman or child who does not recognize that milk, in order to be safe, must come from clean dairies where extraordinary precautions are taken to prevent contamination, and most health departments provide elaborate machinery for the inspection and control of the milk business. Vended waters, however, go along unmolested and a catchy name and an attractive legend on the bottle seem to give the public sufficient assurance that they are getting a pure and unpoluted product.

A marked increase in public interest concerning sanitary matters has no doubt stimulated greater care on the part of venders of bottled waters in maintaining their sources of supply free from contamination and their bottling works in a cleanly condition. Nevertheless, fragmentary evidence that comes to the attention of the state board of health from time to time in-

dicates quite clearly that there is still much room for improvement.

As soon as practicable the present status of vended water in Illinois will be canvassed by the new engineering bureau of the state board of health, not with a view of antagonizing the business, but with a view to securing the cooperation of persons and companies engaged in selling bottled water, to the end that the well-conducted establishments may be certified by the state board of health as offering for sale a product that meets proper sanitary demands.

PROTECTING FIENDS.

A bright and attractive 10-year-old girl was assaulted and murdered in Topeka, Kan., Tuesday and the feeling was so strong against the man accused of the crime that he had to be taken from the local jail secretly and spirited away to prevent his lynching at the hands of the mob. A good deal is said about the way the mob administers justice in the south but there are certain offenses that are equally repugnant to all sections of the country—to Kansas no less than Georgia. It is worth noting that Kansas has abolished capital punishment and yet it required the utmost vigilance on the part of the authorities to prevent the people in their original capacity from meeting out extreme punishment to this human brute. Manifestly the inhabitants of the capital city of the state did not take the same view of crime as did the legislators who took the main terror from the law. The legislature made a very serious mistake and such an offense as this shows it only too clearly. The murderer of this little girl should be made to pay the death penalty, not by a mob but by due and prompt process of law. The judgment of enlightened mankind can name no punishment short of death that meets such a case. The spectacle of this tender child lying in her grave, her life choked out by the hands of a coarse wretch, while the state of Kansas is feeding and clothing this wretch and watching over and protecting him in bodily health, with a prospect of long life and possible hope of release before him, is one to shock the best instincts of the human heart. To demand something more in the way of atonement for such an offense is not savagery or bloodthirstiness and to so characterize it is a monstrous untruth. It is a demand for justice to the living and the dead. To preach life imprisonment as proper punishment for offenses of this character is in its essence heartless cruelty. It provokes the mob and leads society to the point of summary vengeance in self-protection.

HELPING THE PEOPLE.

Persons who cannot see how the government can possibly help the people in matters of price regulation of food products can learn a little lesson from the recent history of sisal hemp.

This is the material from which binder twine is made; it is a product of Mexico and Central America, its price directly affects the cost of wheat, and so it concerns every one.

Recently the International Harvester company accused the marketing organization of Mexican planters, called the "Commission Reguladora," of withholding sisal hemp from the market in order to force higher prices. Representatives of the "Commission" in turn charged that the Harvester company sought to corner sisal and to create a shortage, and discredit the planters' organization, and the directors asked that the disposal of the present available supply of sisal be handed over to the federal trade commission.

A resolution to this effect passed the senate without debate last week. Under the agreement the sisal must be sold at present prices plus any increase in ocean freight rates. Within 30 days any manufacturer desiring to buy must file an affidavit that he needs the fibre for manufacture for domestic consumption during the season of 1916, and all manufacturers must be given equal opportunity to buy for manufacturing purposes, but not for speculation. The 125,000 bales, said to be on hand, will insure a sufficient supply of binder twine for this year's harvest.

The distribution of sisal by the federal trade commission shows very clearly how many another commodity which directly affects the price of food might be kept from the hands of speculators and the unfair methods of boosting prices employed by big corporations.

The federal trade commission consists of five men appointed by the president. It was approved two years ago, its activities are not yet understood by the general public. This matter of sisal hemp is a good lesson in the power of the federal trade commission to be of service to the people.

Ask Disarmament of Norway.

Christiania, Norway.—Complete disarmament for Norway is called for in a bill which has been introduced in parliament by the socialist faction of that body. This measure asks the government to frame and pass as soon as possible a resolution or bill providing for the abandonment of the whole army and navy. It also asks that all treaties between Norway and other countries, which might possibly be a hindrance to complete disarmament, be either altered or replaced by new treaties, and that treaties providing for arbitration in all controversial questions be secured with all foreign nations.

This bill is in accordance with the program of the Norwegian socialist party, which during the last election advocated disarmament irrespective of whether other nations would disarm or not. Since the socialists control only one-third of the assembly the bill now pending will not be passed this session, but if they should get control of parliament at the next election, a bill of this nature undoubtedly would be passed and become a law.

Selected by Tavenner

Daniels.

Under the direction of Secretary Daniels, the government is manufacturing smokeless powder for 34 cents a pound. Prices paid the powder trust ranged from 50 to 80 cents.

As a result of an investigation instituted by Secretary Daniels, more than a million dollars was saved on one projectile job alone.

Secretary Daniels has applied in the case of the officers of the navy the regulations regarding liquor that the officers applied in the case of the men.

Secretary Daniels has made the navy a university and by so doing has made it possible for more enlisted men to become officers.

When Secretary Daniels took charge of the navy there was an average of 1,700 men in prison. Now the average has decreased to 700 and the discipline is better. There are more men re-enlisting in the navy now than there have been for years.

But that is not all of the story. There is another fact that must not be forgotten. It is this: Secretary Daniels is the most ridiculed, most bitterly maligned head of the navy department in the history of the country.

The powder trust people hate Daniels. They have a reason.

The projectile people hate Daniels. They have a reason.

The papers controlled by the powder trust and projectile crowds malign Daniels. They have a reason.

Many of the officers dislike Daniels because he has made it possible for

more men to come up from the ranks. The Daniels scheme places the emphasis upon worth. The officers who dislike their secretary place the emphasis upon caste.

It is not possible for all Americans to agree with Daniels regarding the details of his naval preparedness schemes, but the fact remains that no honest American can examine the record without establishing the fact in his own mind that the present secretary of the navy has done more for his department than all of his five predecessors in office did during their whole terms.—Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat.

The Sugar Tariff Again.

There are times when a newspaper which wishes to help the public is forced to keep "dinging" in the same bell. This is one of the times.

Chicago wholesale grocers interviewed yesterday agreed that the retail price of sugar is sure to go to 10 cents per pound in the near future. The present tariff comes to a fraction over one cent per pound. By putting sugar on the free list, therefore, congress can lower the price of sugar by this amount, and save American consumers \$90,000,000 per year. The amount of revenue lost to the treasury by such action can be more than made up by a national inheritance tax.

It is not yet too late for congress to face the music, stick to sound democratic doctrine, and tax unearned wealth instead of dearly bought necessities. To repeat the slogan The Journal has raised many times before, give us free sugar and taxed legacies.—Chicago Journal.

"THE NAVY LEAGUE UNMASKED"

Frederick (Okla.) Enterprise.

Sunday afternoon the Enterprise editor spent a couple of hours in reading Congressman Clyde H. Tavenner's speech in the house of representatives Dec. 15, 1915, on the subject, "The Navy League Unmasked," and found it to be one of the most effective arguments made in that body for a couple of decades.

He shows that while the bulk of the people of this country will have to bear the increased burdens of an increased army and navy that the few munition manufacturers and big steel works will reap enormous profits. He reads a circular from a New York banker, dated Aug. 28, 1915, showing the extent of these profits, the stock market report saying: "Winchester arms up 1,000 points. Colts arms up 1,000 points. Du Pont declares stock dividend of 200 per cent."

At the beginning of the European war, Bethlehem steel could have been bought for them \$30 to \$40. Mr. Tavenner showed where it had been quoted the day previous at \$474.

From the above enormous profits of concerns engaged in that kind of business it will be seen that it is to their interest that the United States become involved in the European war. What Mr. Tavenner urges is that the government take private profits out of the war and preparation for the war, so that it will become no more profitable for traffickers in war munitions to have this country go to war than it is for other people. "War is altogether unprofitable to these few," he declared, "to be healthy for the rest of us."

The United States has increased its appropriations on account of war more than any other nation in the world during time of peace—two billion dollars during the past 10 years. Of every \$100 collected from the people for the government, \$67 has been paid out for war, a large amount of which has gone to four firms, which, up to this time, have had a monopoly of the manufacture of armor plate and powder.

The bulk of this money has been paid not by the rich but by the poor, through the payment of a duty on much that the poor man and his family eats or wears. Nearly everyone one buys anything at a store he is unconsciously helping to pay for the maintenance of the army and navy in the increased cost of living. Since the money for this purpose is mainly raised through taxing what we eat and wear it stands to reason that the more we spend on the army and navy the higher is going to

be the cost of living. If the cost of living continues to grow larger than the increase in wages it is likely that there will be greater danger of trouble within the republic than from abroad.

Although it has been shown that the United States has been able to produce war material 54 per cent cheaper than private concerns, we have officers in the army and navy that prefer to buy of those concerns than have the government manufacture them.

There are retired officers of the army and navy, drawing \$6,000 a year salary for doing nothing, who are employed by some of these munition manufacturers in lobbying at Washington.

General Crozier, the man who awards these contracts, was formerly in partnership with the Bethlehem Steel company. While an officer he and another officer took out a patent on a disappearing gun, which he sold to the Bethlehem Steel company with the understanding that he was to receive a royalty on all guns sold to foreign countries.

Since the European war began, many officers of the army and navy resigned to accept situations with private munition manufacturers at greatly increased salaries, and a considerable amount of the munitions that are going to the allies today are being made under their supervision.

The war trust is backed by the most powerful men in the world, and since the United States at war means more to them than in time of peace, one must tremble for the peace of this nation.

Take the profits out of manufacturing war munitions, by the government putting up plants of its own, and pay for the army and navy through the income tax and you will hear no more of the Navy league, for its membership will be no more in favor of war than are we ourselves.

After reading Mr. Tavenner's exposure the Enterprise has come to this idea of a mutt: A fellow, who like ourselves works 25 hours a day 13 months in the year to try and keep out of the red at his bank, and will then allow himself to be buncoed into whumping 'er up for an enormous army and navy, when he and other poor men like him will have to pay the bill and do the fighting while the munition manufacturers stay at home to reap the profits.

WITH OTHER EDITORS

Only One Voice in America.

Minneapolis Journal: "Somebody," who has just come back from the middle west, has told the Outlook that a gentleman from that part of the country told him that the Lusitania case was a local issue which concerned only the seaboard. It is possible that there was found such an American in the middle west, but certainly he was not typical of this portion of the country.

The Lusitania case either was of interest to every American, or it did not present an issue of interest to any American. That is to say, it raised a national question, or it raised no question at all. It could not be discussed, debated or decided on sectional lines. As well say that attacks on Americans on the southern border present only a Texas question, or that attacks over the northern border would present a Minnesota question, or that the sinking of a vessel in the Pacific presents only a California question.

We could not divide ourselves up in this manner, if we wished. We doubt whether any responsible man from the middle west has made such an assertion. If he has, we are sure he does not represent this section, any more than the congressman from the middle west who votes against preparedness

because foreign navies cannot sail over the Alleghenies, represents this section.

America has only one voice on all these problems. It is one voice for all America.

Advice Concerning the Baby.

Columbia State: If the baby is pretty, tell the mother that it is the very image of her. If it looks like something the cat dragged in, intimate that it takes strangely after the old man.

Postoffice Romance.

Columbia (S. C.) State: Friendship, N. Y.: Love, Va. Kissimmee, Fla. Ring, Ark. Parson, Ky.

Charge for London Park Games.

London, England.—For the first time in the history of London, people who play tennis, croquet or other games in the public parks must pay for their sport this summer. The following charges have been approved by the parks committee: Tennis, 8 cents an hour; lawn bowls, 4 cents an hour; croquet, 8 cents an hour.

CHORDS AND DISCORDS

Composing Room Comedy.

Bill Kahle—"I see Needle stuck Quincy."

Bill Schmach—"He has a great little eye."

PEORIA YOUTH who embezzled \$3,000 has been caught in New York. Peoria police wired that they did not want him. Evidently they figure that being broke in Gotham is sufficient punishment for the crime.

SEATTLE hotels ask a 30 per cent reduction in their water rates because of increased consumption since the state was voted dry. Bootleg liquor does demand large and frequent chasers.

"THE Irish at the Front" is a book just issued. It is bound in green. Perhaps that's what caused the Dublin outbreak.

CHICAGO suffragets are to soak their feet in warm salt water before entering the June procession. Those who refuse to turn out are advised to soak their heads.

MEMBERS of the house of congress are to be permitted to print their pictures in the Record. Most of us will look at pictures.

"FOR driving horse while drunk Atlantic City man is sent to jail for 30 days." He got just what he had coming. Least he could have done was to have given the animal a chance to sober up.

Heard on the Street Car.

"I see John Bunney has gone with Barnum and Bailey."

"Why, they are both dead."

"I know they are."

Village Philosophy.

When a man gets the habit of thinking too much of himself it is about the hardest of all habits to break.

The worst kind of childishness is that which comes to some folks at the time which nature means to be the prime of life.

The only sort of a hint some men will take is a sign that you are an easy mark.

When a fellow is always talking to you about his diseases you are tempted to wish they would hurry up and get in their full work with him.

Folks who love to be waited upon are awfully hard to be cured of their ailments.—M. G. R. in the Sioux City Journal.

Showing Up Friend Husband.

(From the Sheffield Times.) Editor of the Sheffield Times: An item appeared in your paper last week stating that Henry Hotchkiss was called to Chicago on account of the serious illness of a granddaughter. I wish that statement corrected, please, for he went on one of his periodical spees.

MRS. HENRY HOTCHKISS.

Tennessee Goats.

(From Science.) To the Editor of Science: There is a peculiar breed of goats raised in central and eastern Tennessee. When suddenly frightened the hind legs become stiff and the animal jumps along until it recovers and trots off normally or if greatly frightened the front legs become stiff also and the goat falls to the ground in a rigid condition. They have received the name of "stiff legged" or "sensitive" goats.

The farmers in Tennessee prefer them because they do not jump fences. They are snow white and look like ordinary goats. We are starting experiments to determine whether this is a dominant or recessive characteristic in comparison with a normal goat. When this peculiar affliction first appeared I cannot say, but it seems to be possessed by all the goats in the section named.

J. J. HOOPER.

Kentucky State University.

Dolling Up in Kansas.

(Cherryvale, Kan., Republican.) A young man who bore the earmarks of one who has spent a great deal of time in the rural districts walked into a Cherryvale grocery store the other day and asked for a 10-cent bottle of vanilla. He told the shopkeeper that he hadn't wrap it up, that he would take it just as it was. As soon as the purchase was secured the youth took out of his pocket a carefully folded white handkerchief, removed the cork from the bottle and poured a small amount of the liquid on the cloth. The clerk must have shown his surprise, for the boy smiled pleasantly and explained, "There's going to be a sociable out our way tonight."

NOW we know why Villa hasn't been killed. He has a contract to appear in the movies. And it may turn out that some enterprising picture magnate is responsible for the dash on Columbus.

ROOSEVELT has come out in favor of woman suffrage. The colonel, these days, is for everything except success of the democratic administration and others seeking the republican nomination for the presidency.

NICK Hunt, who has resigned as Chicago's chief of detectives, described Chief of Police Healey as a man who "looked into space and said nothing." That's why he's chief, Nick.

THE most beautiful women in the world are said by experienced and observant travelers to be Indian women of the isthmus of Tehuantepec, which lies just north of Yucatan in Mexico. And they don't wear high shoes and short skirts, either. All they do is paint.

J. M. C.

The Daily Story

How a Mother Saved Her Son—By Eunice Blake.

Ten or fifteen years ago we heard more of anarchists than we do today. Possibly the great war has produced a condition in Europe more terrible than anything the wildest anarchist had ever dreamed of. There was a time when the anarchists of the world were well organized, being in touch with one another all over the world, and the circle was more powerful with respect to its members than any of the tyrants it wished to eliminate.

Manuel Fernandez, a Spaniard, was in his youth converted to the theories of the anarchists, and when he was twenty-one years old he offered himself for any purpose by which he might serve the cause. He was informed that lots would be drawn by a number of devotees as to who should assassinate a sovereign. Manuel volunteered to be one of those to risk having to perform the work and drew the fatal black ball.

He was at once taken apart from the others and given the name of the sovereign he was to assassinate. He was also warned that any talking would result in his own death.

"If you do your duty like a man," said his instructor, "you will be honored; if you shrink from it you will be followed to the ends of the earth. No country is remote enough to shield you."

Manuel being face to face with the reality, the ideal faded away very quickly. He was horrified at the position in which he had placed himself. Going to his mother, he threw himself into her arms as he had done when a boy and told her all.

Senora Fernandez was a woman of great resource. She began at once to think out a plan for saving her son and when she had come to a decision said to him:

"My boy, we must find a way to convince your associates that you are dead. Appear to be making preparations for the crime you are expected to commit, and I will be making preparations for your pretended death."

Manuel at once began to appear to experiment with bombs in a little out-house in the rear of his home. He applied to his anarchist associates for some one versed in chemistry to be sent him as an instructor. A man was detailed for the purpose, and Manuel appeared to be an attentive student. The two secretly worked together at such times as they could do so without running much risk of being discovered, and in time several bombs were made, any one of which was capable of killing a dozen men.

Manuel succeeded in impressing his instructor with the belief that he was really studying how to make bombs that he might do his duty by his anarchist comrades. He proved an apt

pupil and as he progressed insisted on making the explosives himself. When he seemed competent to do so he told his instructor that he needed him no longer. The man went away, cautioning Manuel to be very careful lest he cause a premature explosion with himself for the victim.

One night, or, rather, morning—for it was about 2 o'clock—those living near the Fernandez home were awakened by a terrific explosion. The police at once rushed there and found Senora Fernandez bending over a body which she said was her son. It was so mutilated that its features were not distinguishable, but the clothes on it were those worn by Manuel. The woman was loud in her grief, especially that her son should have died in such a cause, for there was plenty of evidence that he had been making bombs for an illegitimate purpose. The police made their notes, then told the mother that she might bury the body. She waited till she saw the man she had seen working with her son come to view the corpse.

"How do you know that this is the body of your son?" he asked. "The features are unrecognizable."

"Because of the clothes. Do you not remember that suit he wore?"

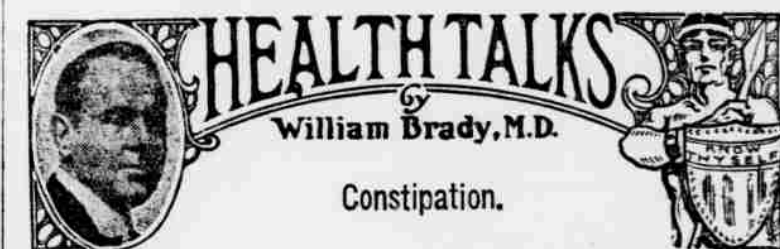
The man seemed satisfied and went away. The same afternoon there was a funeral at the Fernandez home, and the body was laid away.

The evening before the tragedy Manuel Fernandez, disguised as an old man, took a train for Gibraltar, where he waited for a ship to take him to America. He was fortunate in the fact that one from Genoa stopped there the day after his arrival. He at once took passage in the steamer and in due time reached New York.

While he had been learning how to make the bombs his mother was arranging for the explosion. She went to a medical college and made a candidate of the man in charge of subjects provided for the use of students in anatomy. He agreed to furnish her with a corpse about the size of her son, and on the night of the explosion he had it secretly conveyed to her home. She dressed it in the suit of clothes her son was used to wearing and conveyed it to the out-house where the bombs were made.

Manuel had run a wire from the out-house to a point where his mother could easily make an electric circuit and explode a bomb. Placing the subject in the out-house, she pressed the key and before any one had arrived on the scene removed the wire.

Senora Fernandez's plan worked successfully in every respect. But her son has never been known in America by his true name. None of his anarchist associates doubted that he met his death through carelessness.



Excluding such organic factors as fissure, lead poisoning, hemorrhoids, chronic appendicitis and chronic pelvic disease in women, and hurry to catch a car—constipation, or, as we really fashionable doctors like to call it, food stasis, is generally due to dietetic errors, habit, haste and neglect of the natural impulse of evacuation.

Mostly the cause is a too concentrated or refined diet, and particularly an excess of the modern "easily digested" breakfast foods as a very inadequate substitute for the old-fashioned, home-cooked oats.

Next in order of importance as a factor is the too ready resort to laxative or aperient medicines, and especially harsh or crude physics which destroy the delicate physiological nerve-muscle co-ordination of the lower alimentary tract. The two worst cathartics in this respect—and both of them are absolutely unnecessary in any circumstances—are aloes (or its active principle, aloin) and castor oil. Practically all ready-made "liver, stomach and bowel" pills or tablets, under whatever attractive titles or howsoever exploited, depend upon aloes for the laxative effect—because aloes is cheap, and, in a way, sure. Really aloes is horse medicine—some horse doctor probably introduced it into popular self-drugging.

Despite the teachings of drug manufacturers, there is no drug or medicine known today which can be considered tonic to the bowel. Any such claim is just bunk, if you will excuse our brevity. No matter what the pill contains, or the tablet or lozenge or liquid, every dose you take makes the bowel want more—and a bowel soon comes to depend upon artificial stimulation. Some of our high-class pharmacopoeia cathartics are just as bad as any of the extravagant nostrums in this respect.

And worse yet, because so very unnatural, is the habit of using enemas, or, as some susceptible individuals say, "internal baths." If these gullible ones could see the condition of affairs in a person who habitually employs such a means of "cleansing" the bowel, they would feel pretty much taken aback, we imagine. Some of the most distressing or incurable cases of constipation depend entirely upon this very injurious habit. Most any internal physic is preferable for habitual use. Internal physics are natural—Nature supplies them for the purpose.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Where We Stop.

Every one has his sensitive spots. Ours is this: It makes us mad when a

correspondent begins, say, page four of his long-drawn-out wall with this phrase: "Now, Doctor, I know I am taking up your valuable time, but—" and then four more equally endless pages. At the "Now, Doctor," we make it a rule to stop reading. A letter of regret goes forth to the pirate. Thank fortune, nine-tenths of the letters addressed to this department are to the point.

Typoid Is an Accident. The Wisconsin supreme court recently ruled that an employee had contracted typhoid fever from drinking water furnished by his employer, and that the employer was responsible for the accident